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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



October 2017

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Prepared by Analysts of the National Estimates Branch
Current Employment Statistics Survey
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Current Employment Statistics Summary, October 2017

Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 261,000 in October after changing little in September. Over the past 12 months, employment increased by an average of 167,000 per month. In October, employment rose in food services, professional and business services, manufacturing, and healthcare.

The employment change for August was revised up from +169,000 to +208,000, and the change for September was revised up from -33,000 to +18,000.

Average hourly earnings for all employees on private, nonfarm payrolls changed little in October (-1 cent), after rising by 12 cents in September. Average weekly hours, at 34.4 hours, remained unchanged in October.

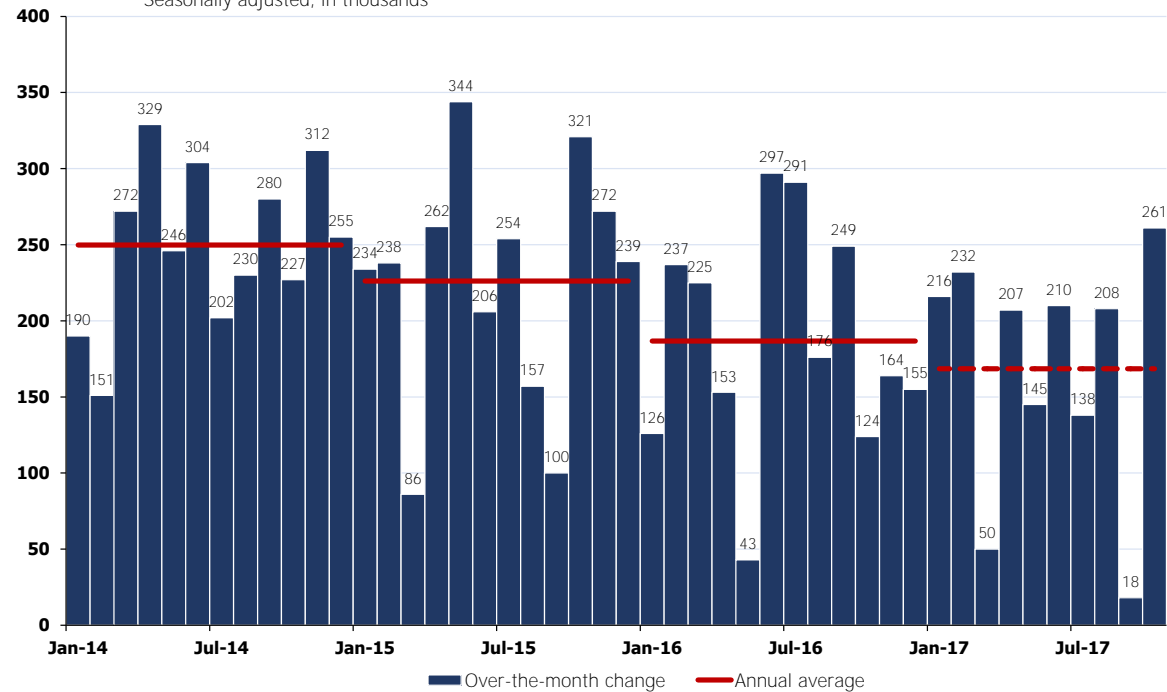
+106,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in food services and drinking places rose by 89,000 in October, after declining by 98,000 in September, which reflect in part impacts of Hurricanes Irma and Harvey.

+50,000 Professional and Business Services

Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, January 2014–October 2017
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, November 03, 2017.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Professional and business services added 50,000 jobs in October. Over the year, job growth has averaged 45,000 per month.

+24,000 Manufacturing

Manufacturing employment rose by 24,000 in October. Within the sector, computer and electronic products added 5,000 jobs, and chemicals added 4,000 jobs. Since reaching a trough in November 2016, manufacturing employment has grown by 156,000.

Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, October 2017

**Total nonfarm:
261***

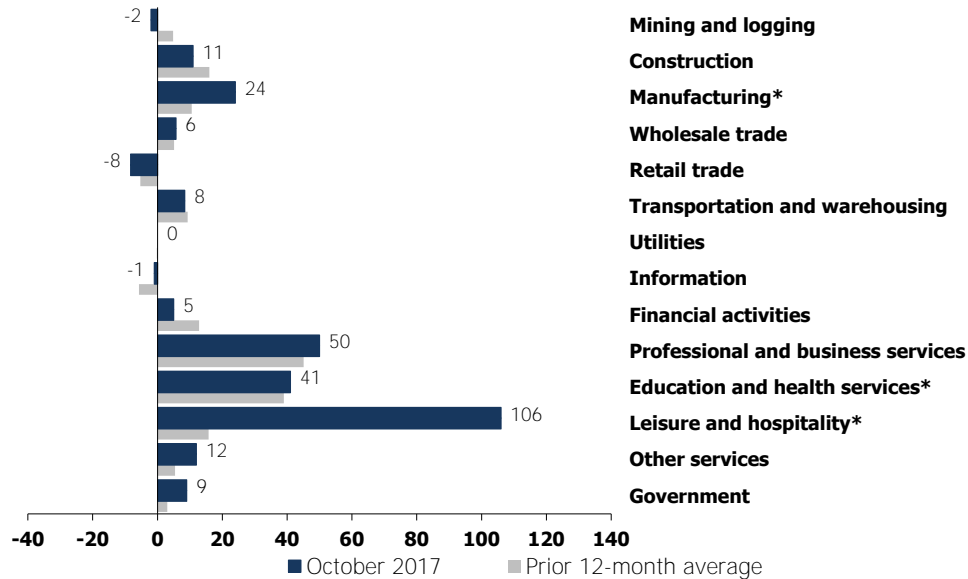
+41,000 Education and Health Services

In October, employment in health care rose by 22,000. Within the industry, employment continued to trend up in ambulatory health care services (+16,000). So far in 2017, health care employment has increased by an average of 24,000 jobs per month, compared to gains averaging 32,000 in 2016.

Employment in total nonfarm

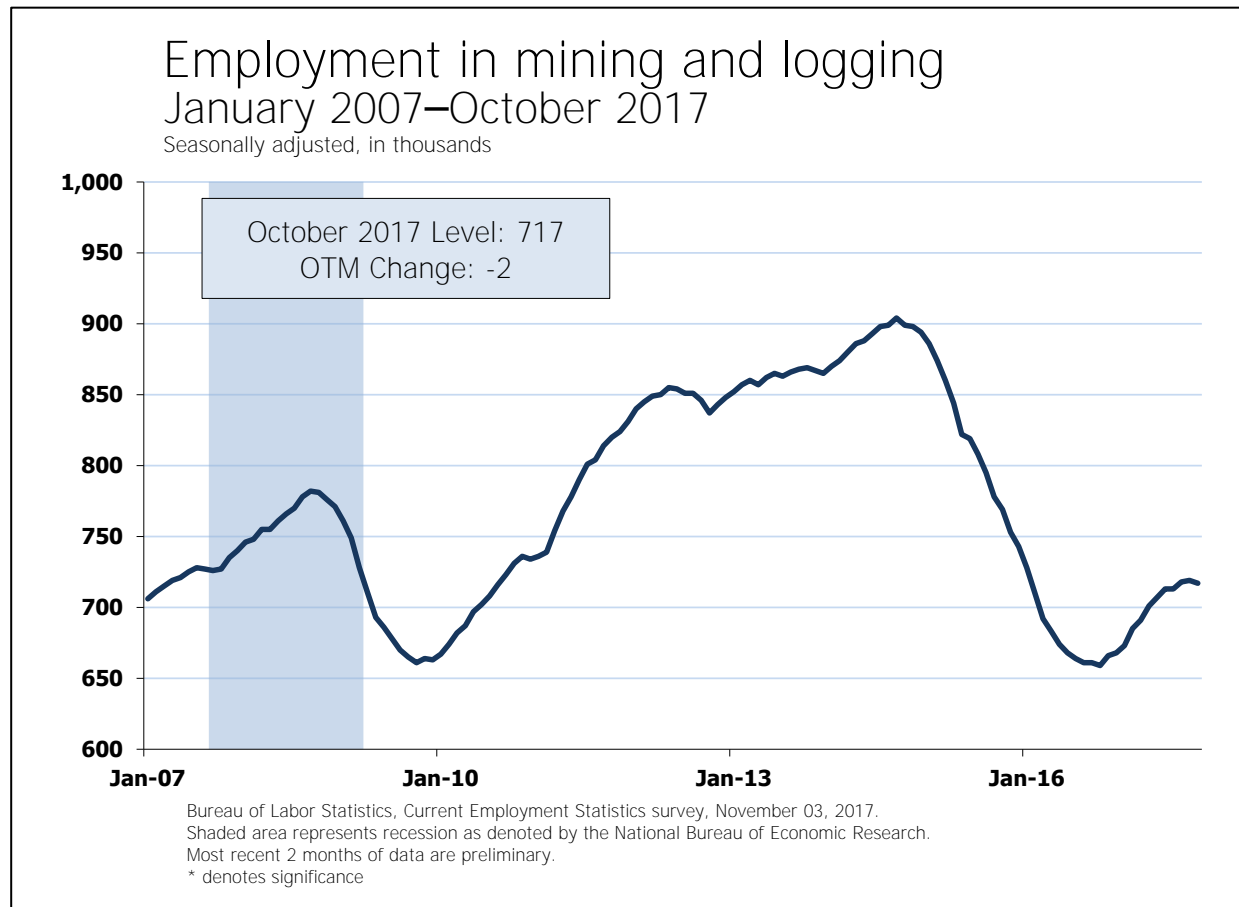
Over-the-month change, October 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2017.
Data are preliminary.
* denotes significance

Mining and Logging

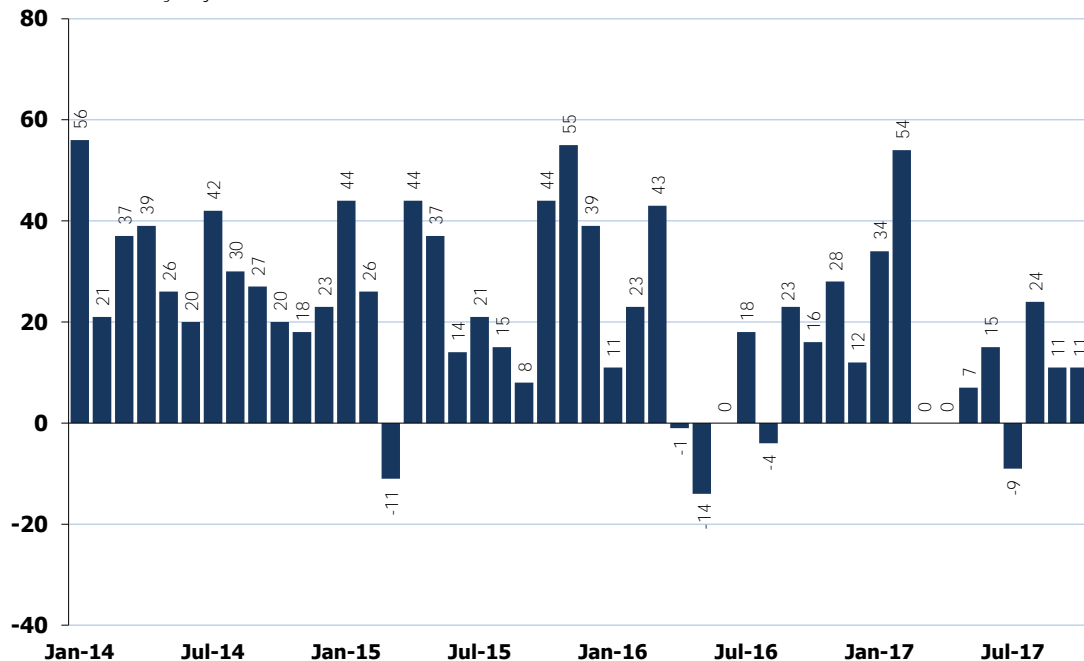


Employment in mining and logging changed little (-2,000) in October. Since an employment trough in October 2016, the industry has added 58,000 jobs. Economic indicators for the industry were mixed in October. The price of West Texas Intermediate [oil](#) rose 5 percent over the month, while the number of active [rigs](#) decreased.

Construction

Employment in construction

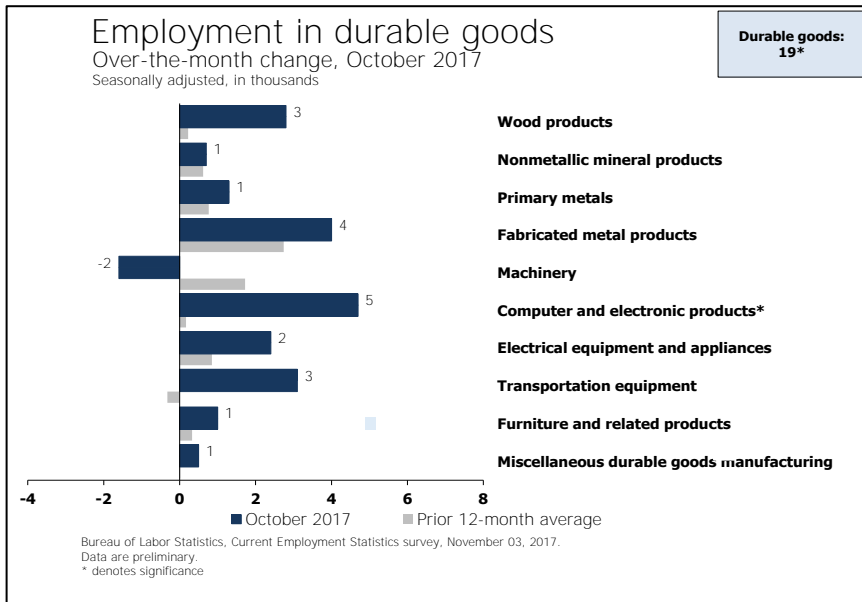
Over-the-month change, January 2014–October 2017
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



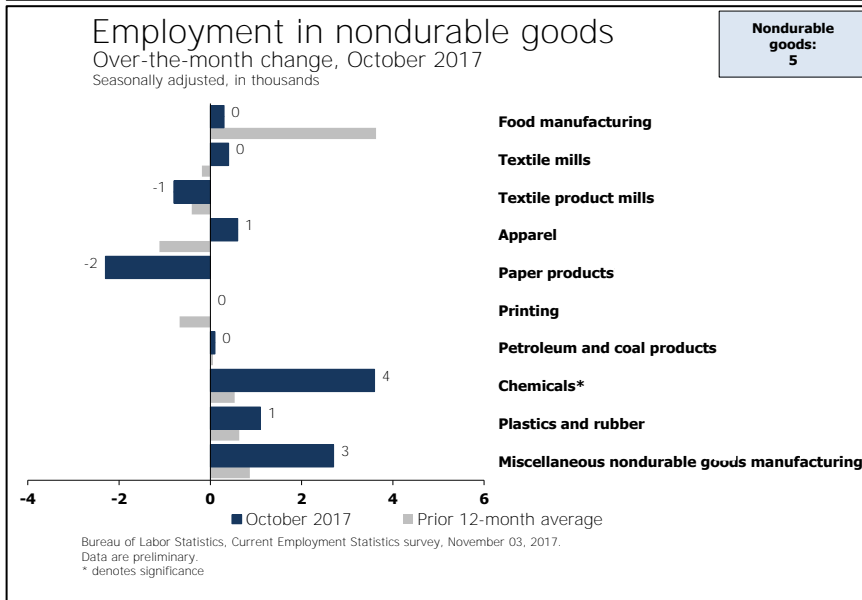
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2017.
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Construction employment changed little (+11,000) in October. Construction has added an average of 15,000 jobs per month so far in 2017.

Manufacturing

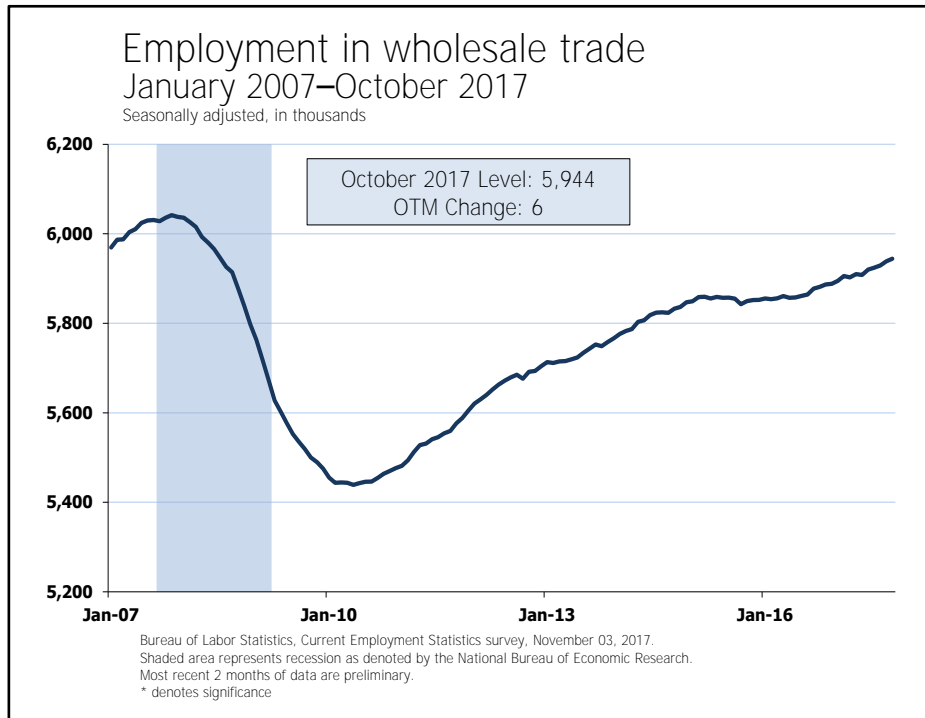


Employment in manufacturing increased by 24,000 in October, driven by growth in durable goods manufacturing (+19,000). Within durable goods, computer and electronic products (+5,000) added jobs. Employment in other durable goods components continued to trend up.



Employment in nondurable goods manufacturing changed little in October (+5,000). Chemicals added 4,000 jobs, while employment in the other nondurable component industries changed little.

Wholesale Trade



Employment in wholesale trade continued to edge up in October (+6,000), bringing the 12-month net job change to 63,000. Nearly two-thirds of the jobs added over the year were in durable goods.

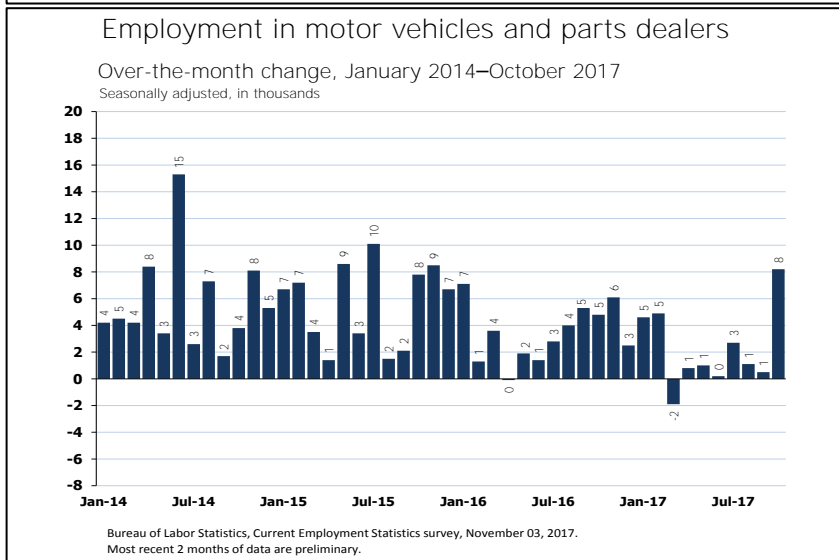
Since reaching an employment trough in September 2015, wholesale trade has added 102,000 jobs, a gain of 1.7 percent.

Retail Trade

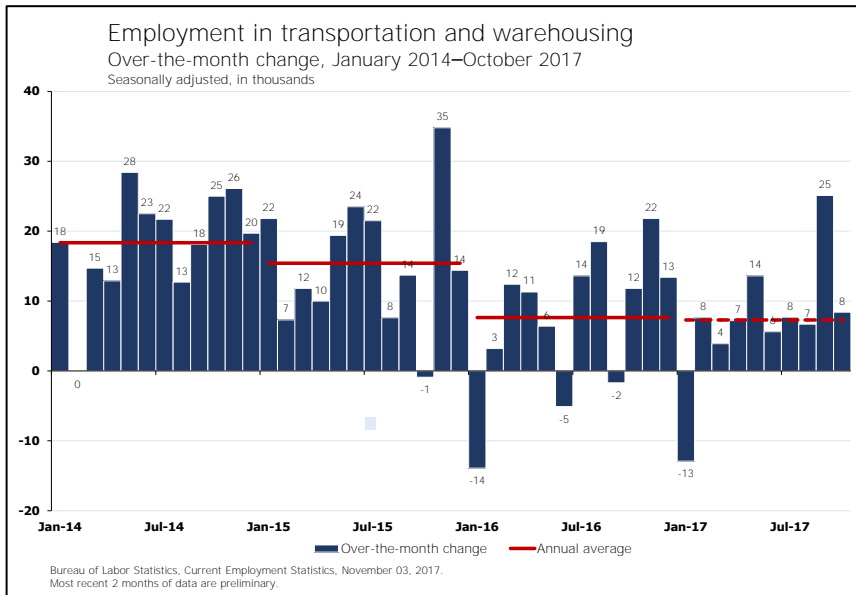


In October, employment in retail trade changed little (-8,000). Since reaching an employment peak in January 2017, retail trade has lost 101,000 jobs.

Employment in motor vehicles and parts dealers increased by 8,000 in October, following little net change over the prior 7 months. All other retail industries experienced little employment change.



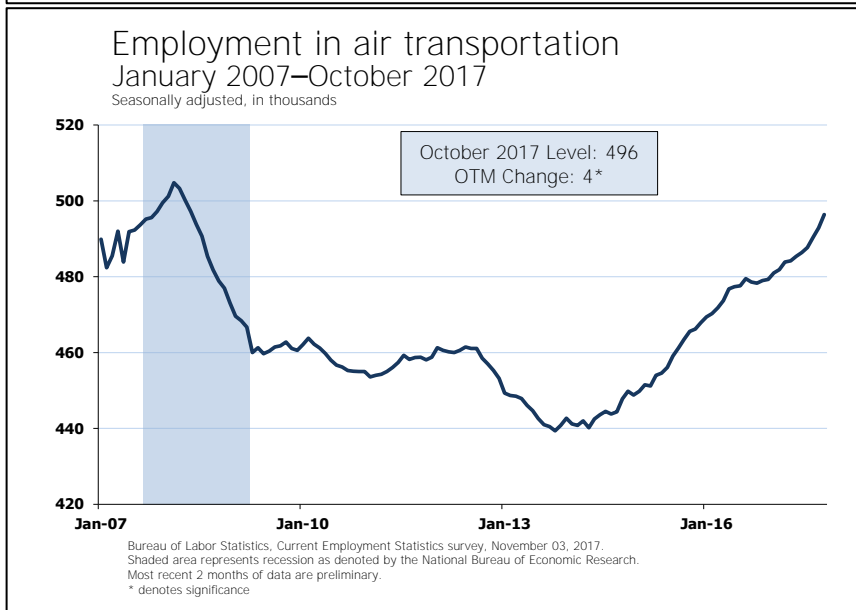
Transportation and Warehousing



Employment in transportation and warehousing continued to trend up in October (+8,000). So far this year, the industry has added an average 7,000 jobs per month, roughly in line with the 2016 average.

Among the component industries, couriers and messengers (+6,000), air transportation (+4,000), and rail transportation (+300) added jobs. Water transportation experienced a job loss in October (-2,000).

Air transportation added 4,000 jobs in October. Since its most recent employment trough in October 2013, the industry has added 57,000 jobs.

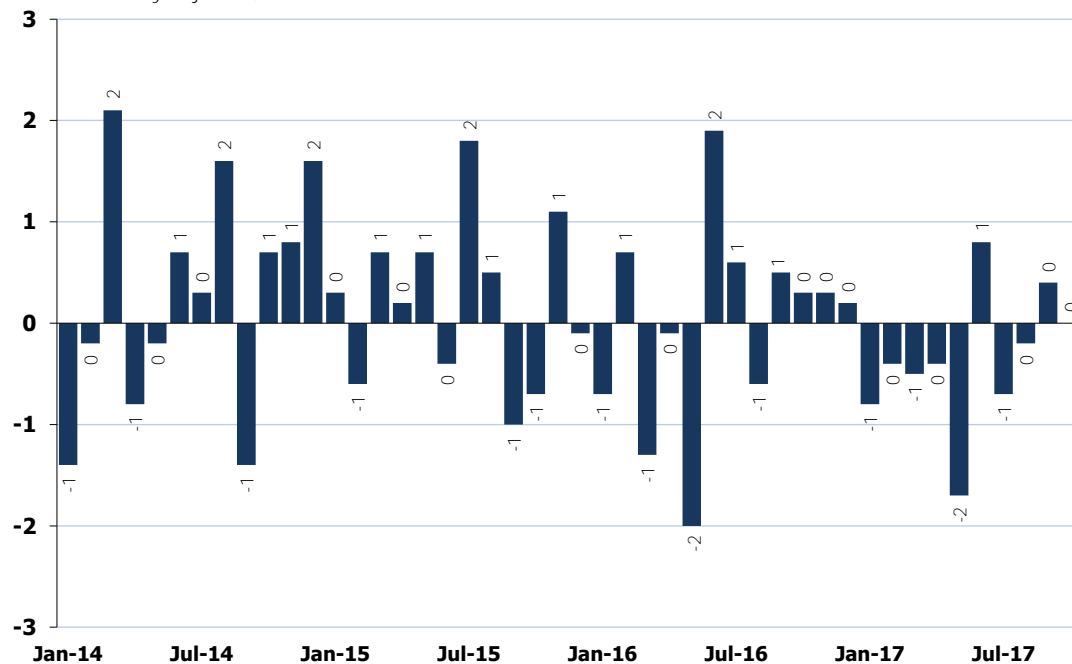


Utilities

Employment in utilities

Over-the-month change, January 2014–October 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

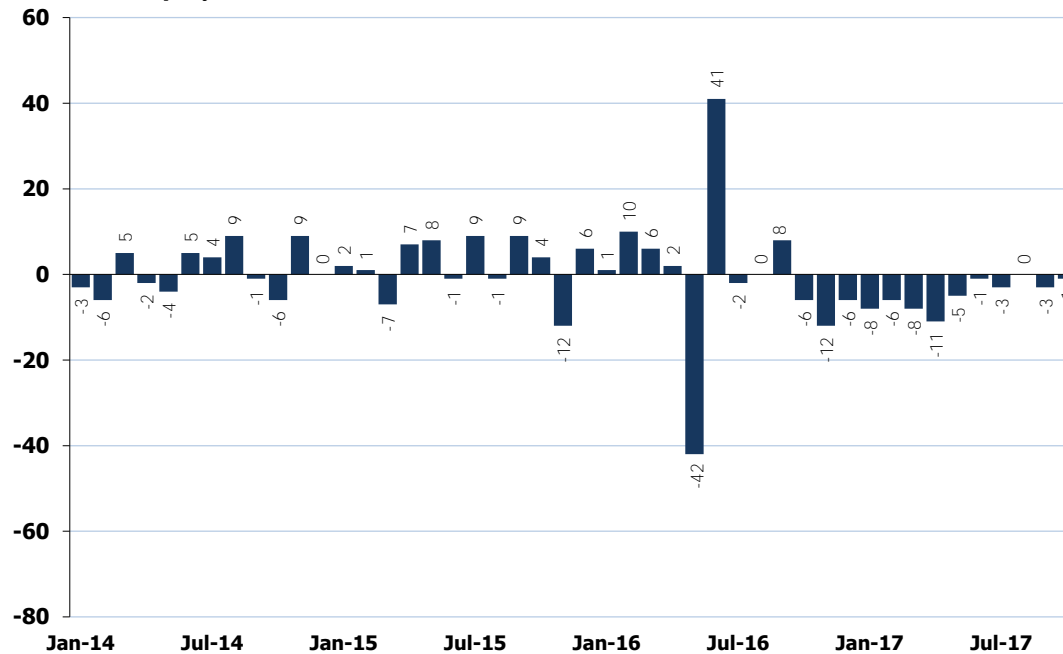


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2017.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

In October, employment in utilities was unchanged and has shown little net change over the year (-3,000).

Information

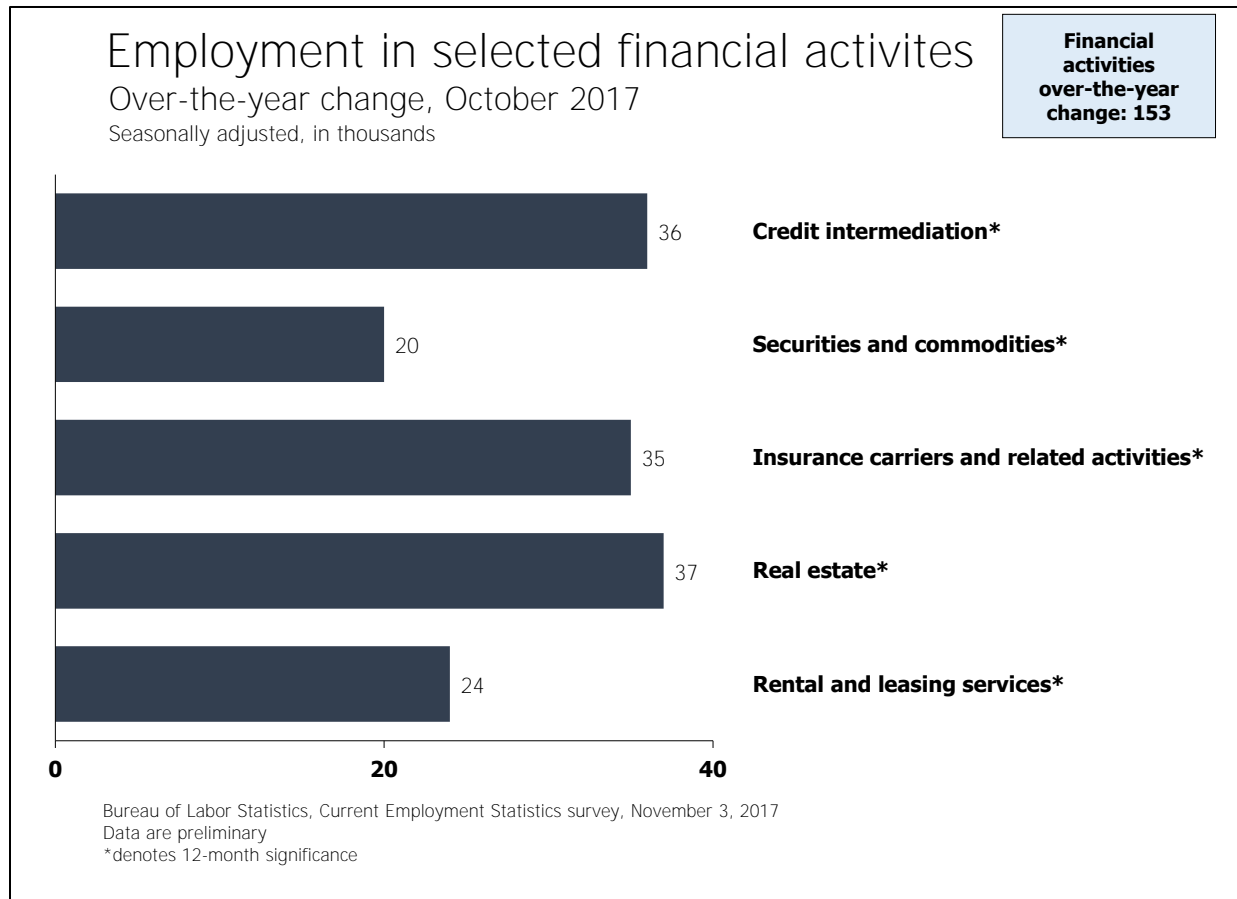
Employment in information
 Over-the-month change, January 2014–October 2017
 Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2017.
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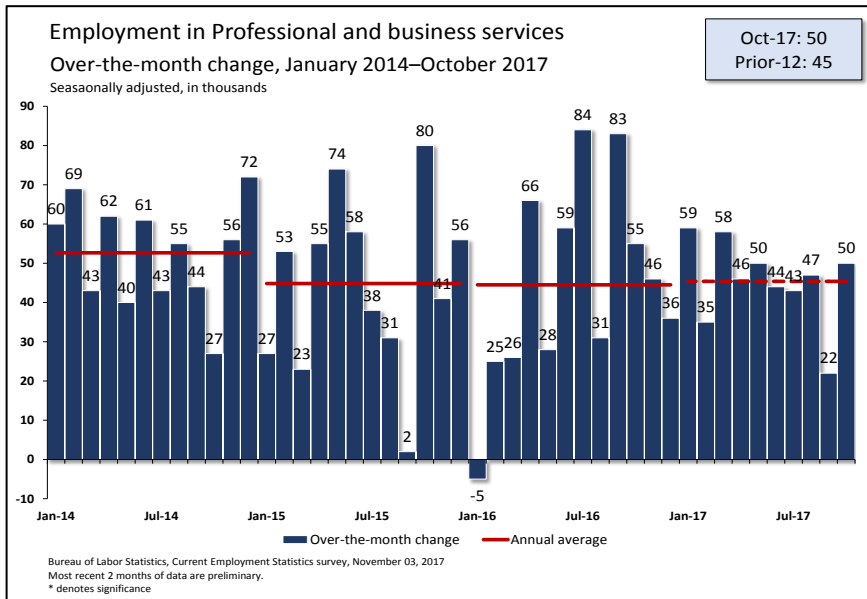
Employment in information was essentially unchanged in October (-1,000). A decline of 5,000 jobs in the telecommunications industry was partially offset by small gains in other component industries. Since the most recent peak in September 2016, information employment has trended down almost every month—a loss totaling 70,000 jobs.

Financial Activities



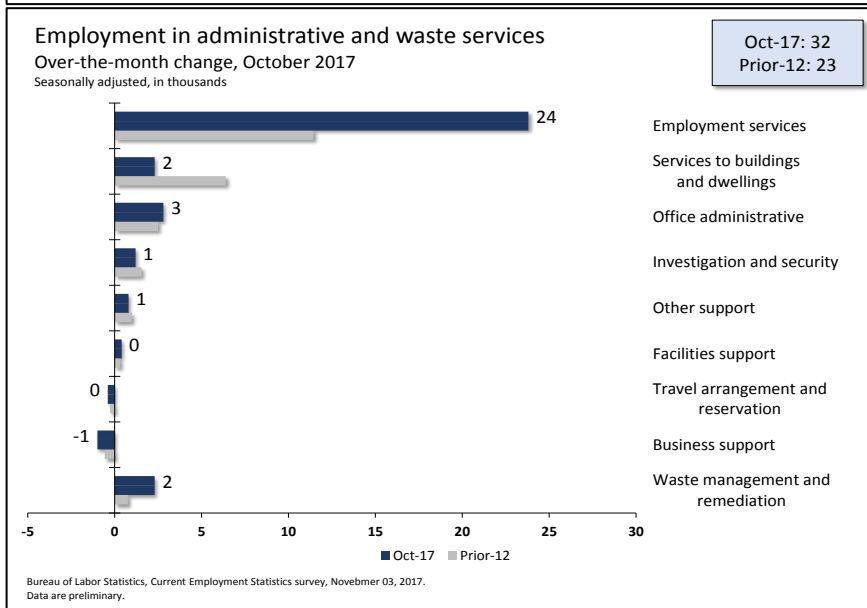
Employment in financial activities changed little in October (+5,000). Over the past 12 months, however, this industry has added 153,000 jobs. Major component industries experienced significant job gains over that time

Professional and Business Services



Professional and business services rose by 50,000 in October. The majority of the employment movement in the industry came in administrative and waste services (+32,000)—above its prior 3-, 6-, and 12-month averages. Of this change, employment services accounted for 24,000 of the jobs added, with the majority being in temporary help services (+18,000).

Employment in professional and technical services (+14,000) and management of companies and enterprises (+4,000) were in line with their prior-months' averages.

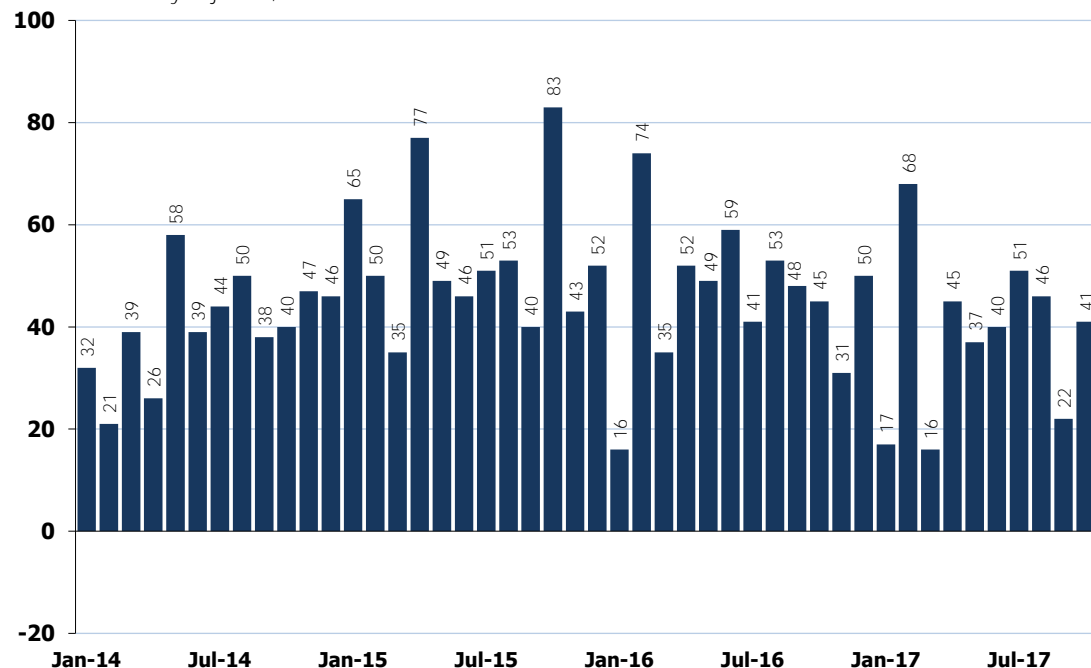


Private Education and Health Services

Employment in education and health services

Over-the-month change, January 2014–October 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

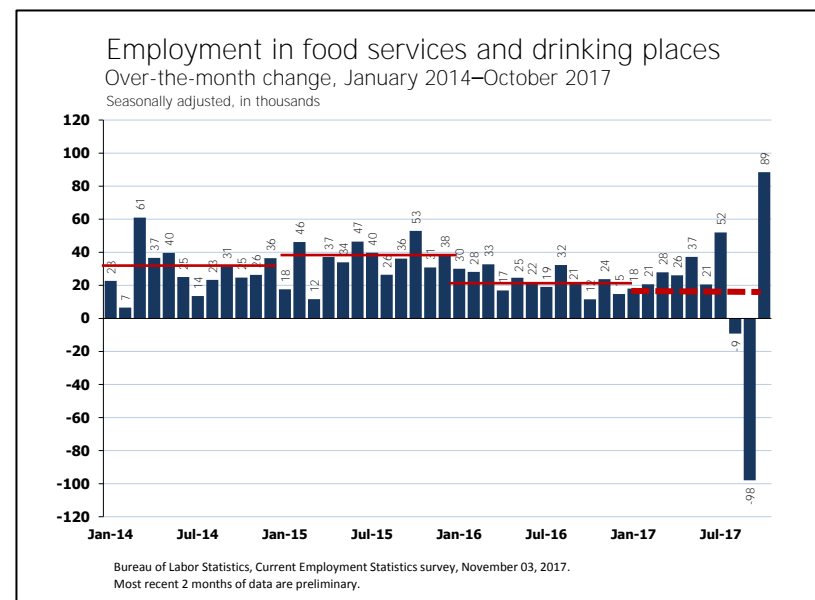
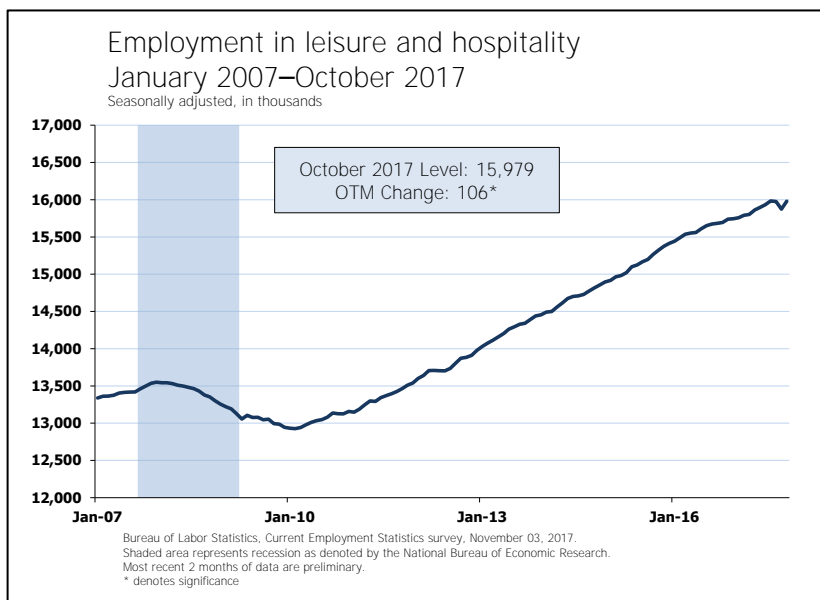


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2017.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Private education and health services added 41,000 jobs in October, driven by employment in health care, which rose by 22,000. So far this year, health care has added an average of 24,000 jobs per month. In 2016, employment in health care had risen by an average of 32,000 per month.

Individual and family services, an industry within social assistance, added 16,000 jobs in October. Social assistance has added about 74,000 jobs over the year, with 65,000 of that increase occurring in individual and family services.

Leisure and Hospitality



NAICS 700 – Leisure and hospitality

Leisure and hospitality employment rose by 106,000 jobs in October, following a sharp decline in September. So far this year, this industry has added 235,000 jobs, an average of 24,000 per month.

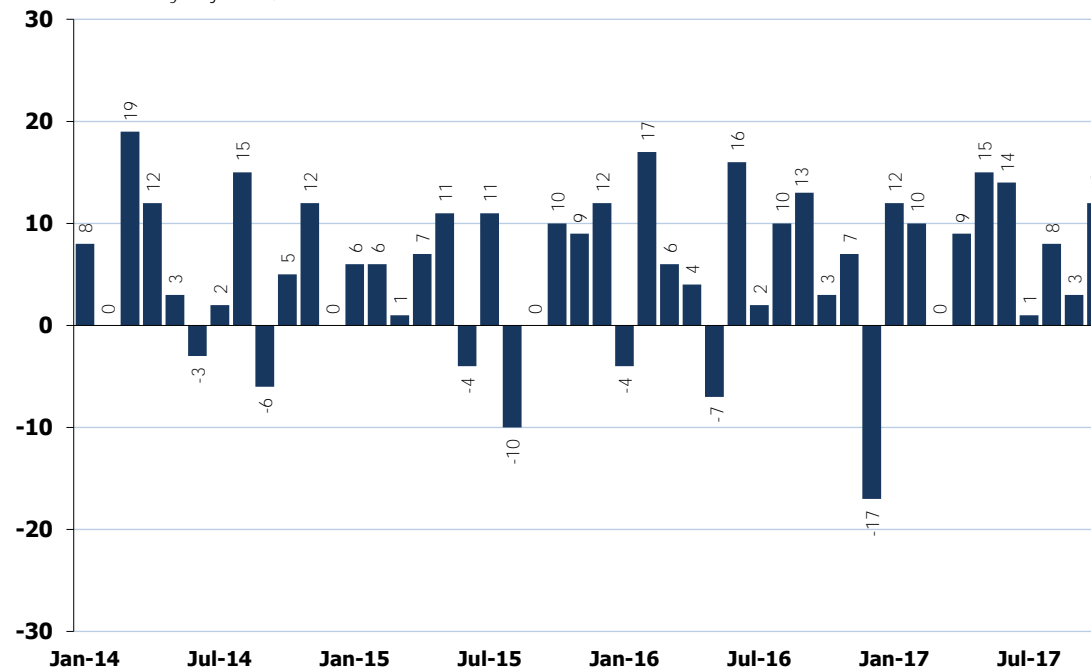
NAICS 722 – Food services and drinking places

Food services and drinking places employment experienced a gain in October (+89,000), partially offsetting a large loss in September. The [Consumer Confidence Index](#) edged up in October, coinciding with gains experienced within the industry. While the index is at its highest level since December 2000, the current 3-month average employment change (-6,000) shows a recent weakness in food services. The effects of hurricanes Irma and Harvey, as well as current economic trends, are reflected in the employment estimates during this period.

Other Services

Employment in other services

Over-the-month change, January 2014–October 2017
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2017.
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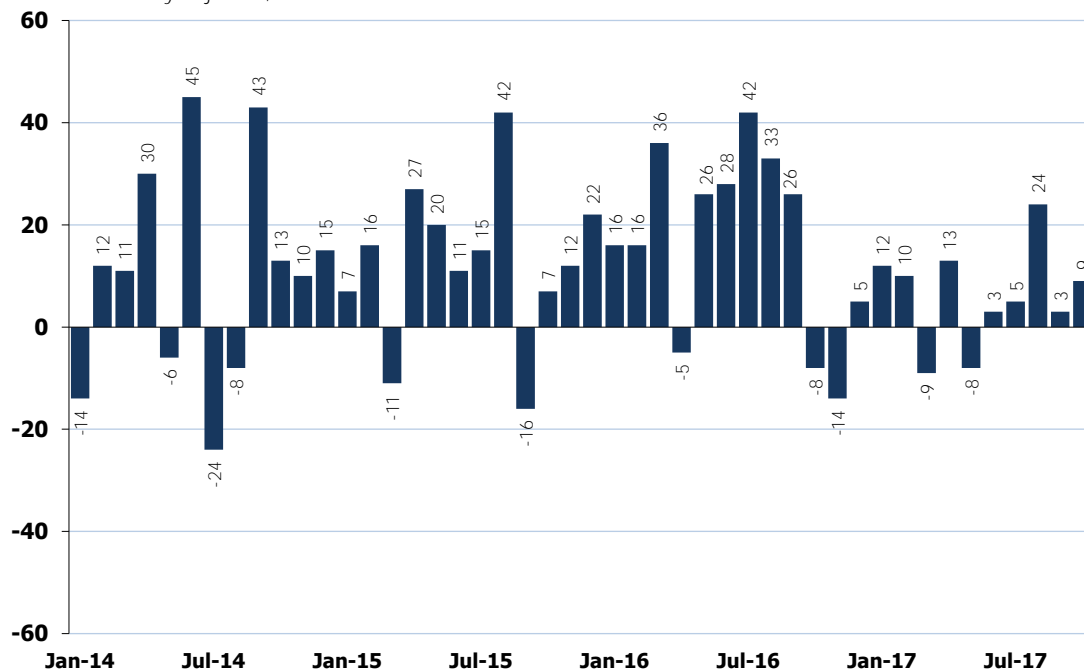
Employment in other services was little changed in October (+12,000). Over the most recent 12 months, however, the industry has added 74,000 jobs, a change of 1.3 percent. Personal and laundry services accounted for 43,000 of the job gains over this period.

Government

Employment in government

Over-the-month change, January 2014–October 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2017.
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Employment in government changed little in October (+9,000). Federal agencies added 5,000 jobs, while in both state and local government were flat. Government employment has risen by an average 6,000 per month thus far in 2017 versus an average gain of 17,000 in 2016.



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